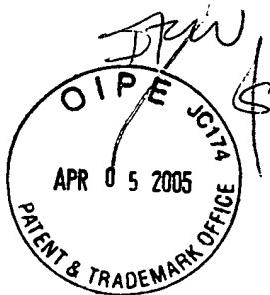


P23683.A04



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi NOMURA

Group Art Unit: 2851

Appln. No. : 10/646,824

Examiner: David M. GRAY

Filed : August 25, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1437

For : LENS BARREL

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed, Applicant hereby calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

In particular, Applicant notes that below-identified documents (1)-(18) were identified by a U.S. Patent Examiner in an Office Action in at least one of the following 27 co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications, of which the present application is a member: 10/646,748, 10/646,872, 10/646,824, 10/646,711, 10/646,735, 10/646,836, 10/646,871, 10/646,908, 10/646,788, 10/646,724, 10/646,736, 10/646,882, 10/646,884, 10/646,907, 10/646,835, 10/646,723, 10/646,698, 10/646,811, 10/646,771, 10/646,860, 10/646,895, 10/646,772, 10/646,812, 10/646,859, 10/646,712, 10/646,759, and 10/646,800:

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,937,609;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 4,974,949;

- (3) U.S. Patent No. 5,099,263;
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 5,210,644;
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,376,983;
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,636,062;
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 5,870,232;
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 5,912,772;
- (9) U.S. Patent No. 5,926,322;
- (10) U.S. Patent No. 6,490,099;
- (11) U.S. Patent No. 6,570,718;
- (12) U.S. Patent No. 6,611,663;
- (13) U.S. Patent No. 6,711,349;
- (14) U.S. Patent No. 6,757,489;
- (15) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0017738;
- (16) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0181953;
- (17) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0007796;
- (18) An English language translation of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-277719, which was published on September 25, 2002. Applicant notes that the Japanese document is already of record (and a copy is thus not being submitted herewith), and that this Japanese document is a family member of U.S. Patent No. 6,665,129;

Applicant also calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

- (19) Pentax Press News, "Pentax Optio S", February 4, 2003, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant notes that this document is not

believed to be prior art, since it was published after Applicant's priority date and since it describes Applicant's own disclosure. Applicant further believes that this document is cumulative to U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0156832, which is already of record. However, Applicant has provided this news release in the interest of full compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure;

(20) Digital CAPA March 2003, which was publicly released on February 20, 2003, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant also notes that this document is not believed to be prior art, since it was published after Applicant's priority date and since it describes Applicant's own disclosure. Applicant further believes that this document is cumulative to U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0156832, which is already of record. However, Applicant has provided this article in the interest of full compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure; and

(21) Pentax News Release, "A High-Quality Zoom Lens Digital Camera so Small that it Fits into a Tin of Altoids", January 8, 2003. Applicant notes that this document is not believed to be prior art since it describes Applicant's own disclosure. Applicant further believes that this document is cumulative to U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0156832, which is already of record. However, Applicant has provided this news release in the interest of full compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following documents which were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by a third party on October 4, 2004 for the file wrapper of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0156832:

(22) U.S. Patent No. 5,086,312. Applicant notes that this document was previously considered by the Examiner in a previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement;

(23) U.S. Patent No. 5,548,446;

(24) U.S. Patent No. 5,765,049. Applicant notes that this document was previously considered by the Examiner in a previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement; and

(25) Japanese Publication No. 2003-149723, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicant notes that this document was published *after* the present application's foreign priority date, and is thus not prior art. Nevertheless, in the interest of full disclosure, Applicant has provided herewith a copy of the Japanese publication and translation of the same.

Applicant also submits herewith a copy of an English language translation of an Office Action from the German Patent Office that was mailed on October 20, 2004 with respect to German Patent Application No. DE 103 52 969.1, which is a family member of commonly assigned (and duly cited) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832, in which the following documents were cited:

(26) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 598 703, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,952,955; and

(27) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-15682, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the German Examiner are set forth in the German Office Action.

Applicant also submits herewith a copy of an English language translation of an Office Action from the German Patent Office that was mailed on October 19, 2004 with respect to German Patent Application No. DE 103 07 520.8, which is the parent application of above-noted German Patent Application No. DE 103 52 969.1 and is also a family member of commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832, in which the following documents were cited:

- (28) U.S. Patent No. 4,937,609 (mentioned above);
- (29) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 810 466, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,909,600;
- (30) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 33 17 999, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,545,661; and
- (31) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 196 23 066, together with patent family members U.S. Patent No. 5,790,911 and U.S. Patent No. 5,790,907.

The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the German Examiner are set forth in the German Office Action.

Applicant also calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents which were cited in Office Actions that were mailed on December 28, 2004 with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/815,193 and 10/815,194:

- (32) U.S. Patent No. 4,791,441 to NISHI et al., which issued on December 13, 1988;
- (33) U.S. Patent No. 4,451,129 IKARI et al., which issued on May 29, 1984. Applicant notes that this document was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement;
- (34) U.S. Patent No. 3,377,427 to FISCHER, which issued on April 9, 1968;

- (35) U.S. Patent No. 5,715,482 to WAKABAYASHI et al., which issued on February 3, 1998;
- (36) U.S. Patent No. 4,597,657 to WAKABAYASHI, which issued on July 1, 1986;
- (37) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-313790, which was published on November 29, 1996, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (38) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 6-230263, which was published on August 19, 1994, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (39) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-254054, which was published on September 25, 1998, together with an English language abstract of the same; and
- (40) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-149723 (mentioned above as document (25)).

- 112
- Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following documents (41)-(48) which were cited in a Japanese Office Action (a copy of which will be submitted as soon as it becomes available to Applicant) that issued in a Japanese patent family member of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832:
- (41) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-023002, which was published on January 21, 2000, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (42) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 6-308592, which was published on November 4, 1994, together with an English language abstract of the same, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (43) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-199019, which was published on August 4, 1995, together with an English language abstract of the same;

- (44) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 5-313226, which was published on November 26, 1993, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (45) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-295050, which was published on November 10, 1995, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (46) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-5849, which was published on January 10, 1997, together with an English language abstract of the same;
- (47) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. SHO 61-133933, which was published on June 21, 1986, together with an English language abstract of the same and patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,841,323 to MINORU et al., which issued on June 20, 1989; and
- (48) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-114473, which was published on April 18, 2003, together with an English language abstract of the same.

With respect to documents (41)-(46) and (48), Applicant notes that English language translations are not readily available. However, such English language translations will be submitted together with an Information Disclosure Statement as soon as they become available.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following documents which were cited in a United Kingdom Search Report that issued in United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0422629.6 on February 24, 2005:

- (49) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2004-257555, which was published on September 16, 2004. Applicant notes that this publication is a family member of U.S. Application Publication No. 2004/0042092, the application of which was previously identified in an Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of this Laid-Open Publication

is thus not being submitted herewith. However, if a copy of the same is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned;

(50) United Kingdom Patent Application Publication No. GB 2394787, which was published on May 5, 2004. Applicant notes that this document is a patent family member of document (49) and thus a copy of this United Kingdom Publication is not being submitted herewith. However, should a copy be needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned. Applicant additionally brings to the Examiner's attention its patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0042092 to NOMURA (mentioned above), which was published on March 4, 2004. Applicant notes that this U.S. Patent Application was previously brought to the Examiner's attention in an Information Disclosure Statement;

(51) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0141735 to NOMURA, which was published on July 22, 2004. Applicant notes that this document was previously brought to the Examiner's attention in an Information Disclosure Statement;

(52) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0062536 to NOMURA, which was published on April 1, 2004. Applicant notes that this document was previously brought to the Examiner's attention in an Information Disclosure Statement;

(53) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0042776 to NOMURA, which was published on March 4, 2004. Applicant notes that this document was previously brought to the Examiner's attention in an Information Disclosure Statement;

(54) U.S. Patent No. 6,185,375 to KAZUO, which issued on February 6, 2001; and

(55) U.S. Patent No. 5,715,482 (mentioned above).

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the United Examiner are set forth in the United Kingdom Search Report.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the documents (18), (19), (20), (21), (25)-(27), (29)-(31), (37)-(39), and (41)-(48) are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Further, Applicant notes that since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of an Office Action on the merits, Applicant has included herewith a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p). However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Applicant further calls to the Examiner's attention U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0227844 to SAKAMOTO, which was published on November 18, 2004. Applicant notes that while the publication is not prior art to the present application and the claims contained therein are not understandable to the Applicant of the present

application, in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §135, Applicant calls this publication to the Examiner's attention in the event that the Examiner may determine that any claims therein contain subject matter that is substantially the same as any of the claims of the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroshi NOMURA


William S. Boshnick
Reg. No. 44,550

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

April 4, 2005
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P23683Application No.
10/646,824INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APR 05 2005

Applicant
Hiroshi NOMURAFiling Date
August 25, 2003Group
2851

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4	9	3	7	6	0	9	06/26/90	WAKABAYASHI et al.			
		4	9	7	4	9	4	9	12/04/90	TANAKA			
		5	0	9	9	2	6	3	03/24/92	MATSUMOTO et al.			
		5	2	1	0	6	4	4	05/11/93	NOMURA			
		5	3	7	6	9	8	3	12/27/94	YAMAZAKI et al.			
		5	6	3	6	0	6	2	06/03/97	OKUYAMA et al.			
		5	8	7	0	2	3	2	02/09/99	TSUJI et al.			
		5	9	1	2	7	7	2	06/15/99	AOKI			
		5	9	2	6	3	2	2	07/20/99	IWASAKI			
		6	4	9	0	0	9	9	12/03/02	SASAKI			
		6	5	7	0	7	1	8	05/27/03	NOMURA et al.			
		6	6	1	1	6	6	3	08/26/03	NAKAGAWA			
		6	7	1	1	3	4	9	03/23/04	DIRISIO			
		6	7	5	7	4	8	9	06/29/04	NOMURA et al.			
	2001 /	0	0	1	7	7	3	8	08/30/01	NOMURA et al.			
	2002 /	0	1	8	1	9	5	3	12/05/02	ICHINOKAWA			
	2003 /	0	0	0	7	7	9	6	01/09/03	NOMURA et al.			
		6	6	6	5	1	2	9	12/16/03	NOMURA et al.			
		5	5	4	8	4	4	6	08/20/96	ENOMOTO			
		4	9	5	2	9	5	5	08/28/90	IWATA et al.			
		5	9	0	9	6	0	0	06/01/99	KOSAKO			
		4	5	4	5	6	6	1	10/08/85	HAMAGUCHI et al.			
		5	7	9	0	9	1	1	08/04/98	REIBL			
		5	7	9	0	9	0	7	08/04/98	REIBL			
		4	7	9	1	4	4	1	12/13/88	NISHI et al.			
		3	3	7	7	4	2	7	04/09/68	FISCHER			
		5	7	1	5	4	8	2	02/03/98	WAKABAYASHI et al.			
		4	5	9	7	6	5	7	07/01/86	WAKABAYASHI et al.			
		4	8	4	1	3	2	3	06/20/89	MINORU et al.			
		6	1	8	5	3	7	5	02/06/01	KAZUO			
	2004 /	0	0	4	2	0	9	2	03/04/04	NOMURA			
	2004 /	0	1	4	1	7	3	5	07/22/04	NOMURA			
	2004 /	0	0	6	2	5	3	6	04/01/04	NOMURA			
	2004 /	0	0	4	2	7	7	6	03/04/04	NOMURA			

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office							Atty. Docket No. P23683		Application No. 10/646,824	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)									Applicant Hiroshi NOMURA			
									Filing Date August 25, 2003		Group 2851	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	2003	-	1	4	9	7	2	3	05/21/03	JAPAN			X
		0	5	9	8	7	0	3	05/25/94	E.P.O.			
	9	-	0	1	5	6	8	2	01/17/97	JAPAN			
		0	8	1	0	4	6	6	03/12/97	E.P.O.			
		3	3	1	7	9	9	9	11/24/83	GERMANY			
	1	9	6	2	3	0	6	6	12/11/97	GERMANY			
	8	-	3	1	3	7	9	0	11/29/96	JAPAN			
	6	-	2	3	0	2	6	3	08/19/94	JAPAN			
	10	-	2	5	4	0	5	4	09/25/98	JAPAN			
	2000	-	0	2	3	0	0	2	01/21/00	JAPAN			
	6	-	3	0	8	5	9	2	11/04/94	JAPAN			
	7	-	1	9	9	0	1	9	08/04/95	JAPAN			
	5	-	3	1	3	2	2	6	11/26/93	JAPAN			
	7	-	2	9	5	0	5	0	11/10/95	JAPAN			
		9	-	5	8	4	9	0	01/10/97	JAPAN			
	61	-	1	3	3	9	3	3	06/21/86	JAPAN			
	2003	-	1	1	4	4	7	3	04/18/03	JAPAN			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	English Language Translation of JP 2002-277719.
	2	English Language Abstract of JP 9-015682.
	3	English Language Abstract of JP 8-313790.
	4	English Language Abstract of JP 6-230263.
	5	English Language Abstract of JP 10-254054.
	6	English Language Abstract of JP 2000-023002.
	7	English Language Abstract of JP 6-308592.
	8	English Language Abstract of JP 7-199019.
	9	English Language Abstract of JP 5-313226.
	1 0	English Language Abstract of JP 7-295050.
	1 1	English Language Abstract of JP 9-5849.
	1 2	English Language Abstract of JP 61-133933.
	1 3	English Language Abstract of JP 2003-114473.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. P23683	Application No. 10/646,824
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hiroshi NOMURA	
		Filing Date August 25, 2003	Group 2851

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	3	Pentax Press News, "Pentax Optio S", February 4, 2003, together with an English language translation of the same.
	1	4	Digital CAPA March 2003, which was publicly released on February 20, 2003, together with an English language translation of the same.
	1	5	Pentax News Release, "A High-Quality Zoom Lens Digital Camera so Small that it Fits into a Tin of Altoids", January 8, 2003.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.